

Middlesex/Union Counties ALB Infestation

As of July 15, there were 7,740 trees removed from the Middlesex/Union ALB quarantine area. Of those, 517 were infested host trees and 7,223 were high-risk exposed host trees. Crews continued removing trees this week in areas of Linden and Rahway. Currently, 28 program personnel from USDA APHIS PPQ, NJDA, NJ Forest Service are performing survey, control and regulatory activities

As of July 15, there were 21,143 trees treated in the Middlesex/Union Counties ALB quarantine area, completing the imidacloprid treatments: 1,874 trees were treated in Carteret by soil injection and 2,837 by trunk injection; 1,707 trees were treated in Rahway by soil injection and 1,878 by trunk injection; 556 trees were treated in Linden by soil injection and 5,734 by trunk injection; 55 trees were treated by soil injection in Woodbridge and 6,502 by trunk injection.

Seven USDA-Forest Service Smokejumpers from Montana, Washington, Wyoming, Idaho and Oregon, continued the tree-climbing survey efforts they began on June 24 in the Middlesex-Union counties infestation area.

Supervisory program personnel will remain on-site during the tree removal process to address concerns of homeowners and the contractors to ensure operations continue to run smoothly.

To date, 3,555 tons of wood chips from removed trees have been taken to the Covanta Recycling Facility in Rahway.

Jersey City-Hoboken Quarantine Area

A total of 11 personnel are continuing survey, control and regulatory activities in the Jersey City-Hoboken quarantine area. As of July 10, 1,253 trees had been surveyed in 2005 with no signs of the ALB detected. In addition, 893 trees have been treated this year with imidacloprid.

Other ALB News

An Asian longhorned beetle find in California dating to early June received media coverage this week as surveyors fanned out in an area around the former McClellan Air Force Base to search trees for any possible signs of the insect. Two beetles were found outside a privately owned warehouse at the former base outside Sacramento. They were believed to have arrived in the wooden pallets of a shipment of tiles from China. A search of 200 trees around the warehouse did not turn up any signs of additional beetles, but California agriculture officials plan to monitor the area over the next year. Nearly 200 beetle traps already have been set.